



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Melody A. Currey Judiciary Committee Public Hearing February 24, 2014

H.B. No. 5216 (RAISED) AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR VESSELS ACT.

Good morning Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, Senator Kissel, Representative Rebimbas and other members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am submitting this testimony regarding HB 5216 AN ACT ADOPTING THE UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FOR VESSELS ACT (UCOTVA).

This proposal was the product of an Advisory Committee designated by the Law Revision Commission, and that was formed for the purpose of evaluating whether to recommend adoption of UCOTVA in Connecticut. The implementation of UCOTVA in this state will require substantial planning and resources on the part of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), which is the titling agency under the proposed act. The co-chairs of the Advisory Committee were cognizant of DMV's role in implementing and maintaining the vessel titling system, and welcomed the participation of DMV staff as members of the Advisory Committee.

Two aspects of this proposal make it feasible from an agency standpoint: (1) the implementation date; (2) the prospective applicability for previously untitled and undocumented vessels. This proposed legislation, which will take effect on January 1, 2016, establishes vessel titling for any vessel (1) that was previously documented and is converting to a title; (2) that was previously titled in another state, and does not fall within one or more exceptions in section 6 of the bill; or (3) that is model year 2017 or newer. This enables the DMV to introduce vessel titling as part of its systems upgrade, which is being implemented in phases. It also affords the DMV adequate planning time to adopt regulations, establish procedures and make necessary programming changes to its systems. Applying the law prospectively to new vessels assures that the DMV will not be required to issue titles for vessels that do not have an adequate record of owner or lienholder information.

Thank you for affording me the opportunity to offer written comments on H.B. 5216.